

REMARKS

Applicants herein traverse and respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of the claims as cited in the above referenced Office Action in view of the above amendment and remarks set forth below.

At the outset, Applicants note that claims 13- and 15-42 have been withdrawn in light of Applicants previous response to the Restriction/Election of species requirement mailed July 23, 2004. In accordance therewith, Applicants have amended the claims to the invention defined by the Group 1 claims, as previously elected, it being understood that Applicants retain the right to file divisional applications to the non-elected inventions.

I. The Rejection of Claim 12 Under 35 U.S.C. §112 first Paragraph May Properly Be Withdrawn:

Claim 12 has been amended to include the recitation “isolated and substantially pure” as requested by the Examiner. Consequently, the above requested amendment is sufficient to negate the grounds for the outstanding rejection.

II. The Rejection of Claims 1-12 and 14 Based variously Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First and Second Paragraph May Properly Be Withdrawn:

The Examiner contends that the prohibitions of 35 U.S.C. §112 dictate rejection of claims 1, 5-8 and 1, 5-11 for the reasons set forth in the outstanding Office Action. Reconsideration of the rejection of the above claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph is respectfully requested.

Specifically, the Office rejects the above claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement and/or written description.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above requested amendment to claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8 are sufficient negate the grounds for the outstanding rejections. Likewise, claim 12 and 14 have been canceled, thereby rendering moot the outstanding rejection of these claims under section 112.

In view of the amendment herein presented, it is respectfully submitted that each point raised by the Examiner has been attended to. As such, reversal of the rejection on grounds of 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs is hereby respectfully requested.

New Claims 43-45 are added herein. Support for these claims is evident from the specification. See, for example, Examples 1 and 2. No new matter is added.

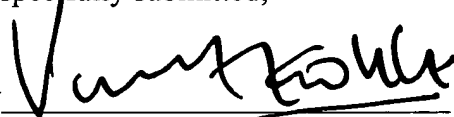
It is believed that the claims are in a condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be of value, he is requested to call the undersigned counsel at the number listed below.

Any additional fees required in connection with this submission may be taken from Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Respectfully submitted,

By


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